

Welcome....and Welcome Back to Studio!!

Whether your child is a returning fellow or a new writer joining us this fall, we're very excited to have you here. We hope that this curriculum overview helps you understand more about the purpose of our writing community and what we will be working on throughout the year!

| | What We Will Be Studying: | What We Will Be Doing | Important Reminders for Parents |
|---------------|--|--|---|
| Summer Studio | <p>What does it mean to be a writer?</p> <p>What do great writers do?</p> <p>An introduction to the elements of writer's craft:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ideas Organization Voice Sentence Fluency Word Choice Conventions <p>An introduction to the phases of the writing process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brainstorming Drafting Peer Review Editing Revision Publishing <p>An introduction to writer's dispositions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Courage and Initiative Understanding Perseverance Expertise Reflection Cooperation and Collaboration | <p>All writers will generate a self-selected idea and they will begin drafting their first pieces of writing. They will also participate in peer review and individual conferences with Studio fellows and teachers. This will help them gain important feedback on their work. It will also help the other fellows of our community and our teachers learn more about each writer and how we can help everyone best.</p> <p>By the end of the week, all writers will have been exposed to the elements of writer's craft, the phases of the writing process, and the dispositions that great writers possess. Each writer will set individual goals relevant to these things.</p> <p>A celebration of writing will take place at Barnes and Noble Booksellers at the end of the week. Students will be encouraged to read excerpts of their rough drafts here.</p> | <p>The purpose of this week is to begin discovering who each writer is and what they love to write about.</p> <p>We hope that all writers will end this week with a great idea and a portion of a draft completed, as well as feedback and strategies that will help them keep working until October.</p> |

| | What We Will Be Studying: | What We Will Be Doing | Important Reminders for Parents |
|----------------------|---|--|---|
| Saturday October 3rd | <p>What does it mean to be a COURAGEOUS writer? How do great writers develop their IDEAS? What does BRAINSTORMING have to do with creating a good draft?</p> <p>Focus on Writer's Craft: Ideas</p> <p>Focus on Writer's Process: Brainstorming and/or Drafting</p> <p>Focus on Writer's Dispositions: Courage</p> | <p>Session Structure:</p> <p>Introducing New Fellows</p> <p>Strategy Session: Learning About Ideas, Brainstorming/Drafting, Courage</p> <p>OPTIONAL STRANDS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital Storytelling: Brainstorming Five Slide Stories Peer Learning Experiences Independent Writing Time/Conferencing With Fellows <p>Reflection and Celebration</p> | <p>Today, writers will be learning what good ideas are and how to brainstorm and draft effectively.</p> <p>Your child may have volunteered to bring in a prop for our next session, to be used for his or her Five Slide Story. Please ask your child about this.</p> <p>If your child would like feedback or further support between sessions this year, please be sure to join our online community at http://wnyywss.ning.com Drafts may be shared for all community members to provide feedback on, and everyone can receive daily support with their work!</p> |

| | What We Will Be Studying: | What We Will Be Doing | Important Reminders for Parents |
|------------------------------------|--|--|---|
| Saturday December 12 th | <p>What do you we need to UNDERSTAND as we work on our rough drafts?</p> <p>How do great writers ORGANIZE their work?</p> <p>What does ORGANIZATION have to do with creating a good draft?</p> <p>Focus on Writer's Craft: Organization</p> <p>Focus on Writer's Process: Drafting</p> <p>Focus on Writer's Dispositions: Understanding</p> | <p>Session Structure:</p> <p>Introducing New Fellows</p> <p>Strategy Session: Seeking Understanding/Organizational Structures and Tools/Drafting</p> <p>OPTIONAL STRANDS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital Storytelling: Drafting Five Slide Stories Peer Learning Experiences Independent Writing Time/Conferencing With Fellows <p>Reflection and Celebration</p> | Please finish FIRST DRAFTS by February 6 th ! |
| Saturday, February 6 th | <p>Why is PERSEVERANCE an important writer's tool?</p> <p>How do great writers play with WORD CHOICE and SENTENCE FLUENCY in order to create VOICE?</p> <p>How can we give and receive helpful feedback through PEER REVIEW?</p> <p>Focus on Writer's Craft: Word Choice, Sentence Fluency, Voice</p> <p>Focus on Writer's Process: Drafting</p> <p>Focus on Writer's Dispositions: Perseverance</p> | <p>Session Structure:</p> <p>Strategy Session: Learning About Word Choice, Sentence Fluency, and Voice</p> <p>OPTIONAL STRANDS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital Storytelling: Peer Review of Five Slide Stories Peer Learning Experiences Independent Writing Time/Conferencing With Fellows <p>Reflection and Celebration</p> | Please complete SECOND DRAFTS by April 10 th . |

| | What We Will Be Studying: | What We Will Be Doing | Important Reminders for Parents |
|---------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Saturday April 10 th | <p>How do writers grow and share their EXPERTISE?</p> <p>How can we use what we know to help others edit their work carefully?</p> <p>Which CONVENTIONS do we struggle with? How can we practice using them effectively?</p> <p>Publishing opportunities for all writers!</p> | <p>Session Structure:</p> <p>Strategy Session: Defining and Sharing Our Expertise Self-Assessing Use of Conventions and Fix-Up Strategies</p> <p>OPTIONAL STRANDS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital Storytelling: Editing and Revising Five Slide Stories Peer Learning Experiences Independent Writing Time/Conferencing With Fellows <p>Reflection and Celebration</p> | <p>Final copies of work that are publication-ready will be accepted digitally through May 1st! Please submit final drafts to Angela at stockmanangela@gmail.com</p> <p>All final pieces will be included in our anthology, Stories from Studio, which will be available in June! We will be reading from these pieces and participating at a book signing on June 5th! More details to come!</p> |

If you have any questions or concerns, please email or call me anytime!

Thanks—

Angela Stockman

Director, WNY Young Writers' Studio

stockmanangela@gmail.com

418-3730